Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* I am coming to it. The Hon'ble Member was saying that in British India the aided schools teachers were paid Rs. 24 *i.e.*, I, suppose the statement which the Hon'ble member made on the floor of this House. Am I correct?

Mr. C. S. Panicker *(Adur):* Yes.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* But in British India the Dearness allowance granted by the Government even to Government Servants, is below Rs. 20. How can they then pay to the Aided school teacher Rs. 24?

Mr. C. S. Panicker *(Adur):* It is true that the basic rate is Rs. 16.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* When even the Government servants there get only below Rs. 20 they cannot give aided school teachers more dearness allowance than what they pay to their own servants.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഇപ്പോൾ വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്ക് Dearness allowance കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Yes. Upto Rs. 1000. And as for the Dearness allowance I must submit to the House that we are dealing with these teachers fairly.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Most unsympathetically.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* I should think that we are dealing with them fairly. It may be a question that we should deal with them more fairly.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christianc-Mattancheri):* Are you going to provide in full?

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* According to us we are treating them fairly. It will be a question of treating them more fairly. That is the position.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christiant-Mattancheri):* The position is not clear.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* If the position is not clear I feel sorry for you.

Another point is about the Depressed Classes. It was stated by a speaker for the Depressed Classes yesterday of course he admitted that more and more provisions have been made for their advancement, that the Government were showing a sort of unsympathy towards them. That was what he stated yesterday. He said Government are not very sincere in their efforts. I do not think Sir that charge of insincerity in their treatment towards the Depressed Classes would stand. I can prove from the budget figures of the past so many years that several provisions have been made for their amenities. We are progressing as a matter of a fact every year. We are making more and more provision every year and if there is any grievance or complaint from them that is attended to most sympathetically and urgently by the Government. It will not be fair for them to say that we are either unsympathetic towards them or indifferrent in their amelioration or in the redress of their grievances. I can assure the Hon'ble Depressed Class members that Government would always continue in this spirity of sympathy and goodwill towards them. That is all I wish to say.

4. Statement of the President

Mr. President: If the House will bear with me, there are one or two matters I should like to refer to briefly. The first is with regard to the statements that have been made about the further advance towards responsible Government. All I want to say on that subject is that in the statement that has been made, His Highness and the Government mean what they said and they are serious in their intention to undertake whatever preliminary work may be necessary, at the earliest possible moment. I hope that before the end of this Session I shall be able to let Hon'ble members know exactly how the Government intend to implement these statements which have been made.

The other matters which I wish to refer to arise out of what was said this morning by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. I wish to refer first of all, to the unfortunate event which happened at Cranganur some little while ago and the request which has been made for a public enquiry into the incidents. As soon as it was brought to my notice by responsible members of this House that there was a suspicion that a certain influential and rich gentleman of the locality

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was responsible for the instigation of the attack upon the procession, I took the matter very seriously. I sent a responsible and senior officer to make a special and independent enquiry and to submit a complete report to me, which he did. He reported that he was not able to discover any evidence directly connecting this rich and influential gentleman with the attack made upon the members of the procession. It was true that some of the people who made the attack and who have now been charged for the attack and are awaiting their trial are servants of this rich and influential gentleman. But it does not follow therefore that the employer was responsible for the actions of his servants. I therefore decided that the right thing to do was to let the enquiry take its course and to see that it was completed without undue delay, and that the culprits were brought to charge as soon as possible. That is the position today. If in the course of the trial further information which was not available at the time this officer made his enquiry comes to light, I shall have no hesitation in taking action against anybody who may be shown to have instigated the matter. It was a disgraceful affair. Criticism has been directed against the Police for not having prevented it. The answer to that is there were no police present at the time as there was no person to anticipate to any occurrence of the sort. There was only one Police man at the local out-post at the time.

The second matter I want to refer to is the allegation that has been made regarding the ill-treatment of prisoners while in Police custody. Now this of course is a most disgraceful thing if the charges are true. Here again these charges have been made, and they have been widely published in the Press and referred to in Public speeches and so on and so forth. And as required by the Police Standing Orders as soon as the charges came to my notice I saw that the Police Standing Order was followed and that an independent enquiry was made by a Magistrate of proper standing. These enquiries have been made and I have received the Magistrate's report to the effect that the charges are unfounded. *(Laughter).* A reference was made to one of these persons having been removed to hospital. He was removed to hospital not because of injuries inflicted upon him by the Police but because he was suffering from Asthma and bronchites. *(Laughter).* So far as I am aware these ailments cannot be caused by violence on the part of the Police.

The other matter I should like to say one word about is regarding the order referring to Camps and Parades. Now the universal experience so far as I am aware in every country is that it is dangerous to encourage rival political parties to have their own trained hands of followers. There is always the danger of the followers of one party clashing with those of another and for that reason the Police everywhere, not only in this country, think it necessary to keep a watch upon such activities. The order that was put out here the other day was put out because information had reached us that in certain parts of the State these Camps were being started. I thought for sometime over it and came to the conclusion that if it is found necessary in other countries to bring these activities under Police observation, there cannot be any harm in doing it here. We have not prohibited Camps at all. The only requirement is that information should be given to the Police. And I must say that if these activities are innocent there cannot really be any difficulty about giving the Police information about them. If they are not innocent, then it is obvious, I think, that the Police ought to be fully informed about them. However, I may say that if Hon'ble Members feel that this order is unnecessary for one reason or another and satisfy me that these activities are kept under proper control by some means or other I am willing to discuss with representative members of the parties whether we can devise some effective substitute for the order. I shall consider that these are the only particulars which I wish to place before the Hon'ble Members of this House.

The House rose for the day at 5-5 p.m.

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA

Secretary to the Council

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